In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising

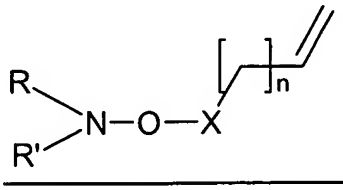
A) a thermoplastic polymer and

B1) a triblock-copolymer of the formula B-C-B; or

B2) a graft copolymer wherein a polymer block B is grafted onto a polymer C to form a comb copolymer of idealized formula C-B(n) wherein n is greater than 2;
wherein
the polymer block B is compatible to the thermoplastic polymer A); and
the polymer block C is a polysiloxane which has a glass transition temperature of at least 20° K below the glass transition temperature of the thermoplastic polymer A);
and the average molecular weight M_w of the triblock-copolymer B1) or grafted comb copolymer B2) is below 50 000,

and wherein the triblock copolymer or the graft copolymer is prepared via controlled free radical polymerization comprising the steps

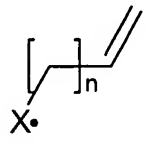
a) reacting a polysiloxane, in the presence of a functional alkoxyamine of formula (I)



(I) under hydrosylilation conditions and

b) reacting the resulting alkoxyamine terminated polysiloxane with an ethylenically unsaturated monomer at a temperature between 60 and 160° C, wherein

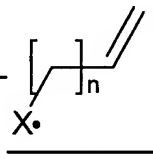
X represents a group having at least one carbon atom and is such that the free radical



is capable of initiating polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers,

n is a number from 0-18;

R and R' are independently tertiary bound C_4-C_{28}alkyl groups which are unsubstituted or substitituted by one or more electron withdrawing groups or by phenyl; or

R and R' together form a 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring which is substituted at least by 4 C_1-C_4alkyl groups and which may be interrupted by a further nitrogen or oxygen atomX represents a group having at least one carbon atom and is such that the free radical  is capable of initiating polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers,

n is a number from 0-18;

R and R' are independently tertiary bound C_4-C_{28}alkyl groups which are unsubstituted or substitituted by one or more electron withdrawing groups or by phenyl; or

R and R' together form a 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring which is substituted at least by 4 C_1-C_4alkyl groups and which may be interrupted by a further nitrogen or oxygen atom.

2. (previously presented) A composition according to claim **1** wherein the thermoplastic polymer A is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, polyvinylchloride, polyphenyleneoxide, polyvinylacetate, polyamide and polyester.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) A composition according to claim **1** wherein the polymer block B is selected from the group consisting of polyisoprene, polybutadiene, polystyrene polymethacrylate and polyacrylate.

5. (currently amended) A composition according to claim **1** wherein

the thermoplastic polymer A and the triblock-copolymer B-C-B are

~~polystyrene polystyrene-poly-n-butylacrylate-polystyrene~~**[[,]]**

~~polystyrene polystyrene-polyisoprene-polystyrene~~**[[,]]**

~~polystyrene polystyrene-polybutadiene-polystyren,e~~

polystyrene	polystyrene-polysiloxane-polystyrene,
~~polystyrene~~	~~polystyrene-polyethylacrylate-polystyrene~~**[[,]]**
polyethylene	polyisoprene-polysiloxane-polyisoprene,
polypropylene	polyisoprene-polysiloxane-polyisoprene,
polymethylmethacrylate	polymethylacrylate-polysiloxane-polymethylacrylate,
polyamide	polyethylacrylate-polysiloxane-polyethylacrylate,
polyester	polyethylacrylate-polysiloxane-polyethylacrylate,
polyvinylchloride	polyethylacrylate-polysiloxane-polyethylacrylate,
polyvinylchloride	poly-n-butylacrylate-polysiloxane-poly-n-butylacrylate,
polyphenyleneoxide	polystyrene-polysiloxane-polystyrene or
polyvinylacetate	polymethylacrylate-polysiloxane-polymethylacrylate.

6. (original) A composition according to claim **1** wherein the glass transition temperature of the polymer block C is 50° K below the glass transition temperature of the thermoplastic polymer A.

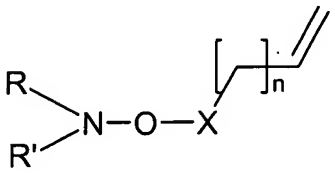
7. (original) A composition according to claim **1** wherein the average molecular weight M_w of the triblock-copolymer or graft-copolymer is below 30000.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) A composition according to claim **1** wherein the triblock-copolymer or graft copolymer is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 10 % by weight, based on the weight of the thermoplastic polymer A).

10. (withdrawn) A process for the preparation of a triblock-copolymer or graft copolymer via controlled free radical polymerization comprising the steps of

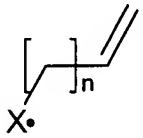
a) reacting a polysiloxane, in the presence of a functional alkoxyamine of formula (I)



(I) under hydrosylilation conditions and

b) reacting the resulting alkoxyamine terminated polysiloxane with an ethylenically unsaturated monomer at a temperature between 60 and 160° C, wherein

X represents a group having at least one carbon atom and is such that the free radical



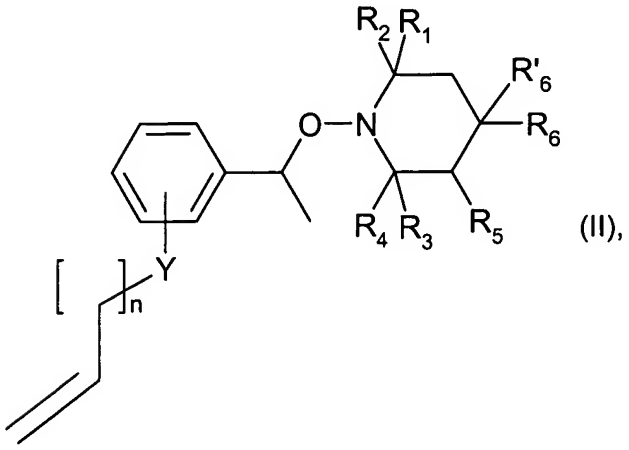
is capable of initiating polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers,

n is a number from 0-18;

R and R' are independently tertiary bound C_4-C_{28}alkyl groups which are unsubstituted or substitituted by one or more electron withdrawing groups or by phenyl; or

R and R' together form a 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring which is substituted at least by 4 C_1-C_4alkyl groups and which may be interrupted by a further nitrogen or oxygen atom.

11. (withdrawn) A process according to claim **10** wherein the functional alkoxyamine is of formula (II)



(II),

wherein

Y is a direct bond, O, NH, C(O)O or S;

n is a a number from 0-18.

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently of each other C_1-C_4alkyl;

R_5 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl;

R'_6 is hydrogen and R_6 is H, OR_{10}, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, -O-C(O)-R_{10} or NR_{11}-C(O)-R_{10};

R_{10} and R_{11} independently are hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkenyl, C_2-C_{18}alkinyl or C_2-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by at least one hydroxy group or, if R_6 is $NR_{10}R_{11}$, taken together, form a C_2-C_{12}alkylene bridge or a C_2-C_{12}-alkylene bridge interrupted by at least one O atom;or

R_6 and R'_6 together are both hydrogen, a group =O or =N-O-R_{20} wherein

R_{20} is H, straight or branched C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_3-C_{18}alkenyl or C_3-C_{18}alkinyl, which may be unsubstituted or substitued, by one or more OH, C_1-C_8alkoxy, carboxy, C_1-C_8alkoxycarbonyl;

C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl or C_5-C_{12}cycloalkenyl;

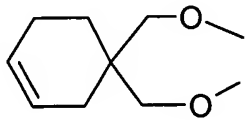
phenyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl or naphthyl which may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more C_1-C_8alkyl, halogen, OH, C_1-C_8alkoxy, carboxy, C_1-C_8alkoxycarbonyl;

-C(O)-C_1-C_{36}alkyl, or an acyl moiety of a α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid having 3 to 5 carbon atoms or of an aromatic carboxylic acid having 7 to 15 carbon atoms;

$-SO_3^-Q^+$, $-PO(O^-Q^+)_2$, $-P(O)(OR_2)_2$, $-SO_2-R_2$, -CO-NH-R_2, $-CONH_2$, $COOR_2$, or $Si(Me)_3$, wherein Q^+ is H^+, ammnonium or an alkali metal cation; or

R_6 and R_6' are independently -O-C_1-C_{12}alkyl, -O-C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, -O-C_3-C_{12}alkinyl, -O-C_5-C_8cycloalkyl, -O-phenyl, -O-naphthyl, -O-C_7-C_9phenylalkyl; or

R_6 and R'_6 together form one of the bivalent groups -O-C(R_{21})(R_{22})-CH(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH(R_{21})-CH_{22}-C(R_{22})(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH(R_{22})-CH_2-C(R_{21})(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH_2-C(R_{21})(R_{22})-CH(R_{23})-O-, -O-o-phenylene-O-, -O-1,2-cyclohexyliden-O-,

-O--CH_2-CH=CH-CH_2-O- or  ; wherein

R_{21} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_{12})alkyl or CH_2OR_{24};

R_{22} and R_{23} are independently hydrogen, methyl ethyl, COOH or COO-(C_1-C_{12})alkyl; and

R_{24} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, benzyl, or a monovalent acyl residue derived from an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic monocarboxylic acid having up to 18 carbon atoms.

12. (withdrawn) A triblock-copolymer or graft copolymer obtained via a controlled free radical polymerization process according to claim **10**.

13. (withdrawn) A composition comprising

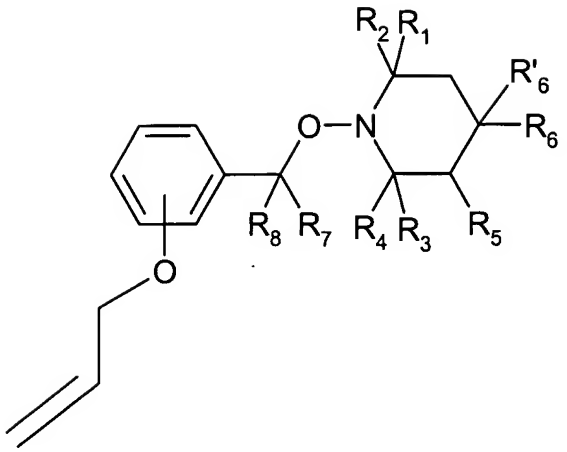
A) a thermoplastic polymer and
B1) a triblock-copolymer of the formula B-C-B; or
B2) a graft copolymer wherein a polymer block B is grafted onto a polymer C to form a comb copolymer of idealized formula C-B(n) wherein n is greater than 2;
wherein
the polymer block B is compatible to the thermoplastic polymer A); and
the polymer block C has a glass transition temperature of at least 20° K below the glass transition temperature of the thermoplastic polymer A);
and the average molecular weight M_w of the triblock-copolymer B1) or grafted comb copolymer B2) is below 50 000,

wherein the triblock-copolymer or graft copolymer is prepared via controlled free radical polymerization according to claim **10**.

14. (withdrawn) A process for enhancing the melt flow of a thermoplastic polymer during processing, which process comprises

adding a triblock-copolymer or graft copolymer according to claim **1** to a thermoplastic polymer and processing the polymer.

15. (withdrawn) A compound of formula IIa



(IIa),

wherein

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently of each other C_1-C_4alkyl;

R_5 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl;

R'_6 is hydrogen and R_6 is H, OR_{10}, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, -O-C(O)-R_{10} or NR_{11}-C(O)-R_{10};

R_{10} and R_{11} independently are hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkenyl, C_2-C_{18}alkinyl or C_2-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by at least one hydroxy group or, if R_6 is $NR_{10}R_{11}$, taken together, form a C_2-C_{12}alkylene bridge or a C_2-C_{12}-alkylene bridge interrupted by at least one O atom;or

R_6 and R'_6 together are both hydrogen, a group =O or =N-O-R_{20} wherein

R_{20} is H, straight or branched C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_3-C_{18}alkenyl or C_3-C_{18}alkinyl, which may be unsubstituted or substitued, by one or more OH, C_1-C_8alkoxy, carboxy, C_1-C_8alkoxycarbonyl;

C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl or C_5-C_{12}cycloalkenyl;

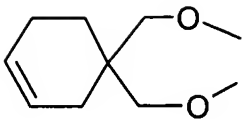
phenyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl or naphthyl which may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more C_1-C_8alkyl, halogen, OH, C_1-C_8alkoxy, carboxy, C_1-C_8alkoxycarbonyl;

-C(O)-C_1-C_{36}alkyl, or an acyl moiety of a α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid having 3 to 5 carbon atoms or of an aromatic carboxylic acid having 7 to 15 carbon atoms;

$-SO_3^-Q^+$, $-PO(O^-Q^+)_2$, $-P(O)(OR_2)_2$, $-SO_2-R_2$, -CO-NH-R_2, $-CONH_2$, $COOR_2$, or $Si(Me)_3$, wherein Q^+ is H^+, ammnonium or an alkali metal cation; or

R_6 and R_6' are independently -O-C_1-C_{12}alkyl, -O-C_3-C_{12}alkenyl, -O-C_3-C_{12}alkinyl, -O-C_5-C_8cycloalkyl, -O-phenyl, -O-naphthyl, -O-C_7-C_9phenylalkyl; or

R_6 and R'_6 together form one of the bivalent groups -O-C(R_{21})(R_{22})-CH(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH(R_{21})-CH_{22}-C(R_{22})(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH(R_{22})-CH_2-C(R_{21})(R_{23})-O-, -O-CH_2-C(R_{21})(R_{22})-CH(R_{23})-O-, -O-o-phenylene-O-, -O-1,2-cyclohexyliden-O-,

-O--CH_2-CH=CH-CH_2-O- or  ; wherein

R_{21} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_{12})alkyl or CH_2OR_{24};

R_{22} and R_{23} are independently hydrogen, methyl ethyl, COOH or COO-(C_1-C_{12})alkyl;

R_{24} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, benzyl, or a monovalent acyl residue derived from an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic monocarboxylic acid having up to 18 carbon atoms; and

R_7 and R_8 are independently hydrogen or C_1-C_{18}alkyl.